IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-13 have been amended and claims 14-24 have been added as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for processing data in which the data is encrypted, decrypted on a basis of a decryption bit length, and thereby read, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising the steps of:

encrypting the data ~~is encrypted~~,

omitting a part of the data with a bit length different from the decryption bit length ~~is omitted~~, and

closing the omitted part ~~is closed~~ so as to make the data continuous.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method for processing data according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising the step of compressing said data ~~is compressed~~ before encryption.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method for processing data according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2, characterized in that~~ ,further comprising the step of, after closing the omitted part so as to make the data continuous, adding dummy data having the same bit length as that of the omitted data ~~is added~~ at the end of the data.

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Claim 4 (currently amended): The method for processing data according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bit length of the omitted data is a bit length different from a ~~devisor~~ divisor of the decryption bit length.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method for processing data according to claim 3, in which the data which is ~~missed~~ omitted has a plurality of omitted data parts, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a product of the bit length of the omitted data and the number of omissions is a bit length different from the divisor of the decryption bit length.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method for reading data using a data reading device for reading the data processed by the processing data method according to claim 1, and recorded in advance on a recording medium or on an auxiliary storage section of the data reading device, and which is a system comprising:

electronic equipment having an auxiliary storage device for pre-recording the omitted data and location information indicating in which part of the data the omitted data is located; and

said data reading device connected to the electronic equipment via a communication line, ~~characterized in that:~~

wherein the data reading device [[send]] sends a request to the electronic equipment via the communication line for the omitted data relating to the data to read and its location information in accordance with operation inputs, and the electronic equipment transmits the omitted data and its location information simultaneously or sequentially in reply to the request;

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the data reading device receives the omitted data and its location information to record them on the auxiliary storage section; and

thereafter, in order to sequentially transfer the data on the recording medium or on the auxiliary storage section to a main storage section and to sequentially decrypt the data on the main storage section on the decryption bit length basis and read it,

the location information on the auxiliary storage section is transferred to the main storage section, with reference to the location information, the omitted part of said data is recognized, and the omitted data on the auxiliary storage section is transferred to the main storage section, while the data on the recording medium or on the auxiliary storage section is transferred to the main storage section and the omitted data is connected to the omitted part of the data on the main storage to decrypt the data on the decryption bit length basis.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A method for reading data using a data reading device for reading the data processed by the processing data method according to claim 2 and recorded in advance on a recording medium or on an auxiliary storage section of the data reading device, and which is a system comprising:

electronic equipment having an auxiliary storage device for pre-recording the omitted data and its location information indicating in which part of the data the omitted data is located; and

said data reading device connected to the electronic equipment via a communication line, ~~characterized in that:~~

<u>wherein</u> the data reading device [[send]] <u>sends</u> a request to the electronic equipment via the

communication line for the omitted data relating to the data to read and its location information in accordance with operation inputs, and the electronic equipment transmits the omitted data and their location information simultaneously or sequentially in reply to the request;

the data reading device receives the omitted data and its location information to record them on the auxiliary storage section; and

thereafter, in order to sequentially transfer the data on the recording medium or on the auxiliary storage section to a main storage section, to sequentially decrypt the data on the main storage section on a decryption bit length basis, and to restore the data from a compressed state to an original state and read it,

the location information on the auxiliary storage section is transferred to the main storage section, with reference to the location information, the omitted part of said data is recognized, and the omitted data on the auxiliary storage section is transferred to the main storage section, while the data on the recording medium or on the auxiliary storage section is transferred to the main storage section and the omitted data is connected to the omitted part of the data on the main storage to decrypt the data on the decryption bit length basis and restore the data from the compressed state to the original state.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method for reading data according to claim 6 ~~or claim 7~~, ~~characterized in that~~ ,wherein said electronic equipment is a management means for managing the use of the data by the transmission of the omitted data and its location information.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method for reading data according to claim 6 ~~or claim 7, characterized in that~~ ,wherein the data recorded on the recording medium or on the auxiliary storage section of the data reading device is recorded in advance on said auxiliary storage device of the electronic equipment or on another auxiliary storage device, and is transmitted from the electronic equipment in reply to the request by the data reading device to the electronic equipment via the communication line, and is recorded on the recording medium or on the auxiliary storage section of said data reading device.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method for reading data according to claim 6 ~~or claim 7, characterized in that~~ ,wherein the data reading device obtains an elapsed time from a point of time when the omitted data is received, and when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined period, the data reading device deletes at least the omitted data on the auxiliary storage section.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method for reading data according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the data reading device obtains an elapsed time from a point of time when the data is received, separately from the omitted data, and when the relevant elapsed time reaches a predetermined period, the data reading device deletes the data on the auxiliary storage section.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A recording medium ~~characterized in that~~ wherein programs implementing the method for processing data according to claim 1 ~~2, 3, 4, 5 or 6~~ are recorded.

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Claim 13 (currently amended): A recording medium ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> programs implementing the method for reading data according to claim 7~~, 8, 9, 10 or 11~~ are recorded.

Claim 14 (new): The method for processing data according to claim 2, further comprising the step of, after closing the omitted part so as to make the data continuous, adding dummy data having the same bit length as that of the omitted data at the end of the data.

Claim 15 (new): The method for processing data according to claim 14, in which the data which is omitted has a plurality of omitted data parts, wherein a product of the bit length of the omitted data and the number of omissions is a bit length different from the divisor of the decryption bit length.

Claim 16 (new): The method for reading data according to claim 7, wherein said electronic equipment is a management means for managing the use of the data by the transmission of the omitted data and its location information.

Claim 17 (new): The method for reading data according to claim 7, wherein the data recorded on the recording medium or on the auxiliary storage section of the data reading device is recorded in advance on said auxiliary storage device of the electronic equipment or on another auxiliary storage device, and is transmitted from the electronic equipment in reply to the request by

the data reading device to the electronic equipment via the communication line, and is recorded on the recording medium or on the auxiliary storage section of said data reading device.

Claim 18 (new): The method for reading data according to claim 7, wherein the data reading device obtains an elapsed time from a point of time when the omitted data is received, and when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined period, the data reading device deletes at least the omitted data on the auxiliary storage section.

Claim 19 (new): The method for reading data according to claim 18, wherein the data reading device obtains an elapsed time from a point of time when the data is received, separately from the omitted data, and when the relevant elapsed time reaches a predetermined period, the data reading device deletes the data on the auxiliary storage section.

Claim 20 (new): A recording medium wherein programs implementing the method for processing data according to claim 6 are recorded.

Claim 21 (new): A recording medium wherein programs implementing the method for reading data according to claim 16 are recorded.

Claim 22 (new): A recording medium wherein programs implementing the method for reading data according to claim 17 are recorded.

Claim 23 (new):   A recording medium wherein programs implementing the method for reading data according to claim 18 are recorded.

Claim 24 (new):   A recording medium wherein programs implementing the method for reading data according to claim 19 are recorded.